

FEB 20 2007
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60,137-207; 136-3032-U

openings. Furthermore, the Examiner has not explained how he has interpreted the reference to disclose that the openings are at least partially arcuate. For these reasons, the rejection fails to establish *prima facie* anticipation and should be withdrawn.

Regarding claim 22, Applicant disagrees with the Examiner's interpretation that *Armstrong* discloses partially arcuate openings having a uniform nominal depth extending into the corner portion as recited in Applicant's claim. The figures in *Armstrong* do not appear to show enough detail to support the Examiner's interpretation, and the Examiner has not explained how he has interpreted the reference to disclose that the openings have a uniform nominal depth as recited in Applicant's claim. For these reasons, the rejection fails to establish *prima facie* anticipation and should be withdrawn.

Regarding claim 24, Applicant disagrees with the Examiner's interpretation that the upper wall portion 8, the lower wall portion 9, and the arcuate rear wall portion 1 comprise a single continuous piece as recited in Applicant's claim. *Armstrong* expressly describes that these elements are indeed separate pieces (see page 2, lines 25-27). The elements 8 and 9 are separate pieces that are secured to the bracket 1 using screws. Therefore, the Examiner's interpretation of these elements as being a single continuous piece as recited in Applicant's claim is improper because the reference directly contradicts this interpretation. For this reason, the rejection should be withdrawn.

Claims 13-15, 18, 19 and 21-24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Kitamura* in view of *Randall*. The Examiner argues that it would have been obvious to substitute the brackets of *Randall* for the pins of *Kitamura* since one is a functional equivalent of the other and would work equally well. Applicant notes that even if the supporting means of *Kitamura* and *Randall* are functional equivalents as the Examiner argues, this does not alleviate the burden on the Examiner of providing motivation to substitute one for the other. A proper suggestion or motivation to modify a base reference requires some benefit to result from the modification, and the rejection fails to state any such motivation. Accordingly, the rejection should be withdrawn.

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Applicant believes that no additional fees are necessary, however, the Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-1482 in the name of Carlson, Gaskey & Olds for any additional fees or credit the account for any overpayment.

Respectfully submitted,

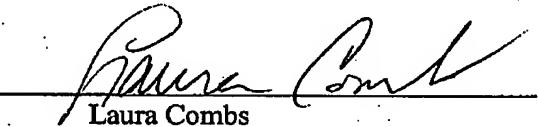


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CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION UNDER 37 CFR 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States patent and Trademark Office, fax number (571) 273-8300, on February 20 2007.



Laura Combs